Appl. No. 10/039,894
Response to Office Action of October 4, 2005

REMARKS

This Response is submitted in reply to the Office Action of October 4, 2005. Claims 1-77 are pending in the application. In response to the restriction requirement of July 8, 2005, Applicant elected Group V, which Examiner modified to include Claims 40-42, 61 and 63-75. Accordingly, Applicant cancels Claims 1-39, 43-60, 62 and 76-77. Applicant believes no fee is due at this time; however, please charge Deposit Account No. 02-1818 for any insufficiency of payment or credit any overpayment.

The Office Action rejected Claims 27-39 under 35 U.S.C. § 101 as being directed to non-statutory subject matter. These claims are now canceled, and the rejection is moot.

The Office Action rejected Claims 40-42, 61 and 63-75 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over by U.S. Patent No. 5,815,665 to Teper, et al. ("Teper") or U.S. Patent No. 5,903,721 to Sixtus ("Sixtus") in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,104,815 to Alcorn, et al. ("Alcorn"). Applicants respectfully disagree with and traverse these rejections.

Claim 40 is directed to a service providing system. The system includes a portable terminal holding a first network identifier, a first server for managing personal information of a user identified by said first network identifier, and a second server for executing processing identified by a second network identifier. The first server includes first managing means for managing personal information identified by the first network identifier, first requesting means for requesting to be provided with services based on the control information and the personal information, from the second server for executing processing identified by the second network identifier contained in the control information supplied by the first supplying means of the portable terminal. The first server also includes first verification means for making verification of the user based on verification data supplied by the second supplying means of the portable terminal, based on a request from the second server. Further, the first server includes third supplying means for supplying verification results from the first verification means to the second server.

Teper discloses an online brokering service. When a user initially connects to a service provider site, the service provider site transmits a challenge message over the public network to the user computer, and the user computer generates and returns and cryptographic response message. The service provider site then passes the response message to the brokering service,

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which in-turn looks up the user's password and authenticates the response message. If the response message is authentic, the online brokering service transmits an anonymous ID to the service provider site, which can be used for subsequently billing the user.

The only verification of a user in Teper takes place at the online brokering service. However, Teper does not disclose or suggest the online brokering service requesting services from the second server. Instead Teper teaches the user computer requesting a service from a service provider or a service provider request brokering from a brokering service. However, neither the user computer nor the service provider include first verification means as described in Claim 40. Consequently, Teper does not disclose or suggest a first server, wherein the first server includes first requesting means for requesting to be provided with services based on the control information and the personal information and first verification means for making verification of said user based on a request from a second server as described in Claim 40.

Sixtus discloses a method for executing a secure online transaction between a vendor computer and a user computer. The method includes the user computer transmitting a transaction request message to the vendor computer via the computer network and the vendor computer sending a transaction verification request to a trust server computer interconnected to the computer network. The method also includes the trust server computer authenticating the user computer and the trust server authorizing the transaction when the authenticating step has passed.

Similar to Teper, the only verification of a user in Sixtus takes place at the trust server computer, and Sixtus does not disclose or suggest the trust server computer requesting services from a second server. Consequently, Sixtus does not disclose or suggest a first server, wherein the first server includes first requesting means for requesting to be provided with services based on the control information and the personal information and first verification means for making verification of said user based on a request from a second server as described in Claim 40.

Alcorn discloses a method and apparatus for providing authenticated, secure, on-line communication between remote locations including a user terminal adapted to enable a player in one location to remotely communicate via a communications medium such as the Internet with a gaming host in another location. The location of the remote user terminal, the location of the host server and a universal time are determined using means for accessing signals generated by

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geostationary navigational transmitters, such as in the global positioning satellite system. Player authentication is determined by use of a personal identification number and an electronic signature verification service.

Like Teper and Sixtus, Alcorn does not disclose or suggest a first server, wherein the first server includes first requesting means for requesting to be provided with services based on the control information and the personal information and first verification means for making verification of said user based on a request from a second server as described in Claim 40.

For at least these reasons, it is therefore respectfully submitted that independent Claim 40 and Claims 41-42, 61, and 63-73 that depend from Claim 40 are patentably distinguished over Teper or Sixtus in view of Alcorn and are in condition for allowance. For similar reasons, independent Claim 74 and Claim 75 that depends from Claim 74 are patentably distinguished over Teper or Sixtus in view of Alcorn and are in condition for allowance.

An earnest endeavor has been made to place this application in condition for formal allowance and is courteously solicited. If the Examiner has any questions regarding this Response, Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner contact the undersigned.

Respectfully submitted,

BY

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